

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 2-19-52 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 2-18-52

WEATHER Temperatures averaged much above normal in the east to slightly above in the extreme west, with unseasonably warm weather at the beginning of the week, and near to slightly above normal during most of the middle and latter parts. Moderate to locally heavy rain, changing to snow, fell over most of the state during the middle of the week, except that the southern portion of the Panhandle and a few localities in the extreme south-central portion of the state received only light precipitation.

CROPS The outstanding feature of the week was the highly beneficial precipitation that covered the entire state. The top soil over most of the wheat belt, especially the central and western portions, was dry and loose since the frost left the ground. The precipitation in the form of either snow or rain generally ranged from a third to two-thirds of an inch, except in the southern Panhandle, extreme southwestern and a few south-central counties where the precipitation was light.

Winter wheat has been greening up throughout all of the southern two-thirds of the state and the present outlook on the largest acreage of record is excellent. The recent moisture has packed the soil around the crown and roots, thereby decreasing the danger of damage from a sudden drop in temperature. The surface soil prior to the precipitation was loose and open, making the wheat quite vulnerable to damage from low temperatures.

In the west, where winter precipitation was light, unhusked corn dried and is in much better condition than the early husked corn. In the northeast the situation is not as good because of more moisture during the winter. Frost came out of the ground in northeastern Nebraska last week and fields are very soft, making it extremely difficult to pick the remaining corn. A few counties report a more favorable outlook for stored corn while others have noted very little improvement and some state the condition is worse than it was last fall. Efforts to facilitate drying of corn continues by moving from crib to crib, installing ventilators, custom drying and moving to elevators.

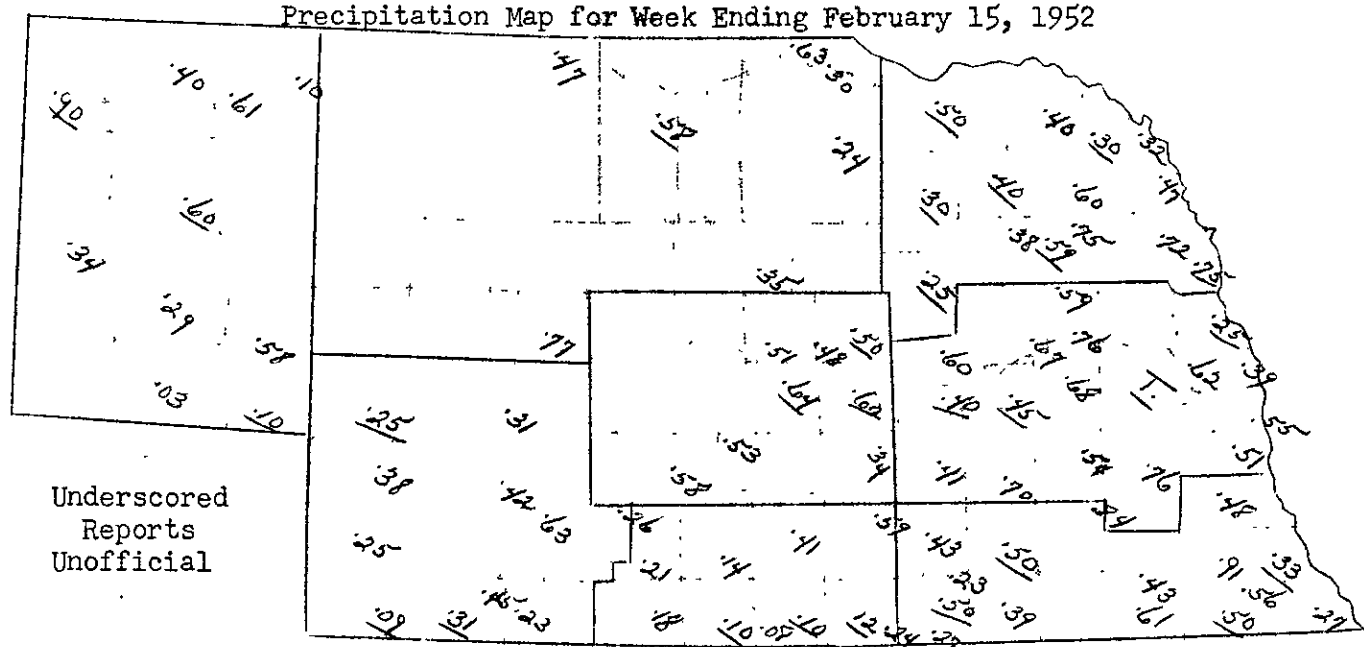
Some oats were planted in the early part of last week in southeastern Nebraska. Sweet clover is being sown in winter wheat fields. Some fertilizer was applied to winter wheat, grasses and pasture. Many counties report a short supply. The precipitation of the past week stopped all field operations.

LIVESTOCK Some hogs were marketed that had been held for a higher price. The weather has been very favorable for farrowing and generally good size litters are reported. Many counties report a reduction in sows held for spring farrowing. Reports on the lamb crop are quite favorable. Some losses of sheep in feed lots were reported. Some cattle are being purchased for pasture. A few counties report trouble from feeding hay containing ergot. There were a few reports of Bang's disease and calcium deficiency. There are some local shortages of hay, grain and forage in western Nebraska, particularly, in the North Platte Valley. Elsewhere in the state, a few counties reported a shortage of grain and generally a short supply of concentrates. So far, there is less interest in chicken production than a year ago.

1500

2-19-52

Precipitation Map for Week Ending February 15, 1952



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (for 24 hours ending in a.m.)

		February 12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th		18th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	61	27	50	30	35	24	32	11	34	5	33	10	44	17
	Scottsbluff	60	26	55	31	37	25	34	20	32	4	34	21	50	22
	Sidney	61	23	53	30	36	23	26	11	40	14	40	23	54	23
N-C	Burwell	66	30	52	37	38	30	33	23	36	21	38	26	41	26
	Valentine	63	31	54	35	37	29	31	21	29	20	32	24	39	21
NE	Norfolk	54	29	49	36	39	30	33	29	33	29	33	22	42	29
	Sioux City	53	29	53	36	38	32	35	28	35	30	32	26	42	32
CEN.	Grand Island	69	34	51	34	40	30	33	28	36	29	37	26	46	28
	Lexington	68	31	51	37	40	30	33	--	35	19	42	24	48	26
E-C	Lincoln	65	39	55	41	40	31	34	28	36	32	35	28	47	32
	Omaha	56	31	54	39	43	30	35	25	35	29	35	31	44	31
SW	Imperial	64	26	53	33	38	28	31	20	38	11	40	24	45	23
	North Platte	65	29	55	36	39	30	32	24	33	15	37	23	44	23

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 18, 1952

Eastern Division

Grand Island	.34
Lincoln	.76
Norfolk	.36
Omaha	.39
Sioux City	.32

Central Division

Burwell	.35
Lexington	.58
North Platte	.31
Valentine	.47

Western Division

Chadron	.40
Imperial	.10
Scottsbluff	.34
Sidney	.03